

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An article tracking device system, further comprising:

activation means to activate an article tracking device, the activation means located adjacent to the exit doors of a facility and having sufficient range to activate a beacon transmitter as it passes through the doors of the facility; and

an article tracking device, further comprising:

~~the~~ a beacon a transmitter;

means to determine if the beacon transmitter is within a preselected area;

means to detect when the beacon transmitter is moved beyond ~~the~~ a preselected area; and

means to automatically activate the beacon transmitter and transmit a beacon signal when it is moved beyond the ~~predetermined location~~ preselected area;

whereby the beacon transmitter will automatically activate and transmit ~~position location information~~ a beacon signal when it is moved outside of ~~a~~ the preselected area.

2. (Currently amended) A device system, as in claim 1, ~~where an~~ wherein:

the article tracking device is a flexible device and sized to fit within a stack of currency.

3. (Currently amended) A device system, as in claim 1, further comprising:

a GPS receiver having means to determine ~~from its GPS~~ the location of the article tracking device from GPS satellite data ~~the position of the device~~;

means to transmit the ~~its GPS location data~~ of the article tracking device to a tracking station.

4. (Currently amended) A ~~device~~ system, as in claim 2, wherein:

the article tracking device is waterproof.

5. (Currently amended) A ~~device~~ system, as in claim 3, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the article tracking device further comprises:

an antenna for transmitting data from the article tracking device;

means to output GPS satellite data received by the GPS receiver to the antenna; and

a battery power supply for supplying power to the device.

6. (Currently amended) A ~~device~~ system, as in claim 5, further comprising:

programmable processing means to control activation of the device and transmission of GPS data.

7. (Currently amended) A device, as in claim 1, wherein:

the beacon transmitter is a transponder; and

the transponder transmits data in response to signals from one or more remote tracking locations.

8. (Currently amended) A device, as in claim 7, wherein:

the transponder has means to receive signals from one or more remote tracking locations on a first preselected frequency and transmit the beacon signal on a second preselected frequency in response to the signals received from the remote tracking station.

9. (Currently amended) A currency theft tracking ~~device~~ system, further comprising:

activation means to activate an article tracking device, the activation means located adjacent to the exit doors of a facility and having sufficient range to activate a beacon transmitter as it passes through the doors of the facility; and

a currency theft tracking device, further including:

a transmitter which may be activated locally or remotely, the transmitter sized such that it is hidable within a stack of currency, or sized such that it can be placed within a wrapper used to secure a stack of currency, or sized such that it is ~~conceivable~~ concealable within a currency bag; and

means to automatically activate the transmitter and transmit a beacon signal when it is moved beyond a preselected area;

whereby the transmitter will transmit ~~location information~~ a beacon signal when it is moved outside of a preselected area.

10. (Canceled) A device, as in claim 9, wherein:

the transmitter transmits a homing beacon when activated.

11. (Currently amended) A ~~device~~ system, as in claim 9, further comprising:

a GPS receiver for receiving GPS location data; and

means to transmit GPS location data via the transmitter.

12. (Currently amended) A ~~device~~ system, as in claim 9, further comprising:

a cellular telephone transceiver;

means to transmit that GPS location data via the cellular telephone transceiver.

13. (Currently amended) A ~~device~~ system, as in claim 10, wherein:

the location of the transmitter is remotely determined by a TDOA network.

14. (Currently amended) A method of tracking the location of stolen articles, including the steps of:

automatically determining when an article has moved ~~outside~~ past an activation device near a door on the perimeter of a predetermined area; and

transmitting data to a remote location to indicate location of the article when the article has moved past the activation device.

15. (Original) A method, as in claim 14, including the additional step of:

concealing the transmitter within a stack of currency or concealed within the wrapper securing the stack of currency together, or concealed within a bag holding the currency, such that when the currency is stolen, the transmitter transmits information related to the location of the currency.

16. (Original) A method, as in claim 15, including the additional steps of:

using GPS satellite data to generate location data which identifies the location of the article; and

transmitting the location of the article to a remote location.

17. (Original) A method, as in claim 16, including the additional step of:

using a cell phone transceiver to communicate the location of the article via a cellular phone network.

18. (Original) A method, as in claim 15, including the additional step of:

automatically initiating communication with police when the article has moved outside of a predetermined area.

19. (Original) A method, as in claim 18, including the additional steps of:

using GPS satellite data to generate location data which identifies the location of the article; and

transmitting the GPS data related to the location of the article to the police.

20. (Currently amended) A method, as in claim 15, including the additional steps of:

transmitting a homing beacon indicating the location of the article; and

using mobile tracking units to determine the location of the article via triangulation techniques.
